

REMARKS

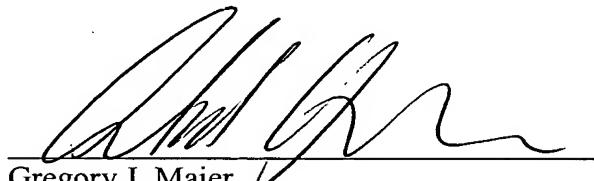
Favorable consideration of this application as presently presented is respectfully requested.

In response to the objection to the abstract of the disclosure, Applicant notes that the specification as originally filed July 24, 2003 includes an abstract on page 27. For your convenience, attached herewith is a copy of that abstract along with a copy of the date-stamped Filing Receipt and Utility Patent Application Transmittal, indicating the total of 27 pages in the specification as filed with the application.

Examination on the merits of the present application, and an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599

Akihiro Yamazaki
Registration No. 46,155

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/03)

GJM/AY:fm
I:\ATTY\AKY\23s\238551CONT\RESP TO NFCA.DOC